

CLAIMS

1. A peptide capable of being a diagnostic marker for Alzheimer's disease, the peptide being obtained by cleaving an N-terminal region and a C-terminal region of Alcadein α , Alcadein β , or Alcadein γ .

2. The peptide according to claim 1, wherein the N-terminal region to be cleaved is a portion of an extracellular domain at the N-terminal.

3. The peptide according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the C-terminal region is cleaved by presenilin.

4. The peptide according to claim 1, wherein the peptide is obtained by cleaving an N-terminal and a C-terminal regions of Alcadein α ; and the cleavage site of the N-terminal region is between amino acids 815 and 816, amino acids 820 and 821, or amino acids 838 and 839 of the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1.

5. The peptide according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the peptide is obtained by cleaving an N-terminal and a C-terminal regions of Alcadein α ; and the cleavage site of the C-terminal region is between amino acids 842 and 843, amino acids 843 and 844, or amino acids 851 and 852 of the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ

ID NO: 1.

6. The peptide according to claim 1, the peptide consisting of an amino acid sequence represented by any one of SEQ ID NOS: 4 to 12.

7. A method for collecting data for diagnosing Alzheimer's disease, the method comprising a process of detecting or quantitatively determining the peptide according to any one of claims 1 to 6 in body fluid or tissues taken from an animal.

8. The method for collecting data for diagnosing Alzheimer's disease according to claim 7, wherein the body fluid is blood or cerebrospinal fluid.

9. The method for collecting data for diagnosing Alzheimer's disease according to claim 7 or 8, wherein the ratio of a high-molecular-weight peptide to the detected or quantitatively determined peptide is used as an indicator for diagnosing Alzheimer's disease.

10. A method for diagnosing Alzheimer's disease, the method comprising a process of detecting or quantitatively determining the peptide according to any one of claims 1 to 6 in body fluid or tissues taken from an animal.

11. The method for diagnosing Alzheimer's disease according to claim 10, wherein the body fluid is blood or cerebrospinal fluid.

12. The method for diagnosing Alzheimer's disease according to claims 10 or 11, wherein the ratio of a high-molecular-weight peptide to the detected or quantitatively determined peptide is used as an indicator for diagnosing Alzheimer's disease.

13. A method for screening a therapeutic agent for Alzheimer's disease, the method comprising the steps of contacting cells secreting the peptide according to any one of claims 1 to 6 with an agent to be screened; and determining a change in the secreted amount of the peptide or a change in the molecular species of the secreted peptide.

14. An antibody against the peptide according to any one of claims 1 to 6.

15. A diagnostic reagent for Alzheimer's disease, the reagent comprising the antibody according to claim 14.